IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: S. HONMA et al

Serial No. 09/606,050 Filed: June 29, 2000

Group Art Unit:

2153

Examiner:

M. Winters

For:

COMPUTER SYSTEM HAVING A STORAGE AREA NETWORK AND METHOD OF HANDLING DATA

IN THE COMPUTER SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 17, 2003

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above application as follows.